

Through his commitment to educational programs in the community, Ranger Cowper has encouraged good stewardship of our public lands and the creatures that inhabit them. His enthusiasm and dedication to protecting, improving and sharing the nature of Snohomish County has enriched the lives of its residents.

I want to thank Ranger Thomas Cowper for his commitment to serving the people of Snohomish County and offer my congratulations on his retirement. I wish him the best on his next endeavors in the community and beyond.

HONORING MRS. CARMELA TRIPPI

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mrs. Carmela Trippi who will be celebrating her 105th birthday on July 1, 2014. Throughout the last century, Mrs. Trippi's unwavering service has left and continues to leave an indelible imprint on our community and on her family.

Carmela has bore witness to some of the most dramatic events in our nation's history—including two World Wars, the Great Depression, the rise and fall of the Soviet Union, the Civil Rights Movement, conflicts in the Middle East, and both waves of the Women's Rights Movement. However, she did not sit idly by.

Mrs. Trippi has participated in politics and government for nearly eight decades, serving as a Democratic Committee woman and clerk to the Hon. Henry Nowak. She is a past president of the Greater Women's Democratic Club and is a current member of the Delaware Club and the Frontier Democratic Club. At age 104, she continues to be active on campaign trails of local elected officials.

The family life of Carmela proves to be inspirational as well. A lifelong Buffalo resident, she is a proud and prolific matriarch with four children, fifteen grandchildren, twenty-five great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren. Thus far, Carmela has led a remarkable life and shows no sign of stopping.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few minutes to recognize Mrs. Carmela Trippi. The unbridled generosity and energetic spirit of this great woman exemplify truly meaningful public service and commitment. Mrs. Trippi's accomplishments in community service, family life, government, and politics through many unfathomably difficult years show that she is a leader and trailblazer for all.

H.R. 4412, THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2014

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, on June 9, 2014, I proudly voted in favor of H.R. 4412, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Authorization Act of 2014, which passed overwhelmingly by a vote of 401 to 2. NASA is an investment in our nation's future.

Investments in the space program will energize, engage, and inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, educators, and the public.

NASA helps propel our nation's economy and technological edge by creating thousands of high-tech jobs in the aerospace industry, at research laboratories, and in universities, and will help strengthen the U.S. aerospace industrial base. Space exploration stimulates the best and brightest with cutting-edge scientific and technical challenges that will make our nation stronger and more competitive. For example, NASA research on advanced electronics and micro-chips helped create the Silicon Valley that provides the innovation and economic growth that benefits our nation today.

But NASA is much more than a jobs program. NASA's science programs aim to answer fundamental questions about the nature and fate of the Universe, the origins of the planets and solar system, the lifecycle of stars, and will help us answer basic human questions, such as whether life has existed elsewhere, perhaps on Mars or maybe Jupiter's moon Europa.

I'm supportive of NASA's planetary science program and the great work done by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), located in my Congressional district, in Pasadena, California. JPL has led the world in planetary science missions, including the Mars rovers, missions to Jupiter, Saturn, and Venus, among many others. The planetary science program is a unique symbol of our country's technological leadership, pioneering spirit, and our optimism for the future. It demonstrates that we are a bold and curious nation interested in discovering and exploring the richness of worlds beyond our own. A vibrant space program is the hallmark of a great nation.

I also support Section 321 in the bill, which calls on NASA to follow the recommendations from the National Academy of Science's report on planetary exploration. Section 321 specifies regular opportunities for small, medium and large missions consistent with the report, and establishes a goal to launch a mission to Jupiter's moon Europa by 2021.

NASA's planetary science program is a crown jewel of our nation. I support these pursuits and investments because they inspire the public and the next generation of scientists and engineers that our nation needs.

I urge my colleagues, and the Administration, to continue to robustly support NASA's cutting edge missions, engineering, and technology.

HONORING MRS. MARY MCHUGH

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mary McHugh for the forty-nine years she spent educating and improving the lives of children in Illinois. Mary's dedication and involvement in our community serves as an example towards which all of us can strive. She mentored countless student teachers towards excellence. She assured and convinced hundreds of underprivileged children to set their sights higher and pursue their

dreams. It is my pleasure to celebrate her many years of service as an educator. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this outstanding educator.

Mary has selflessly dedicated her life to her community. She began teaching in Goreville, IL in 1952, and over the years to follow she taught in Vienna, IL and Corpus Christi, TX. On August 14, 1957, Mary was approved as a teacher in Belleville Public Schools District #118, and from 1958 to 2001 she taught at Franklin Elementary School.

During her forty-three years teaching at Franklin Elementary School in Belleville, Mary pioneered practices that broadened horizons for countless underprivileged children. She cofounded the practice of inviting recent college graduates back to Franklin Elementary School, clad in caps and gowns, to show elementary school students that they can dream big. She started the ongoing tradition of having teachers visit all Franklin Elementary families to welcome students for the new school year. The afterschool tutoring and "Saturday School" programs she cofounded provided students with the chance to achieve their potential. Her work establishing the District Spelling Bee, Young Authors Conference and District Science Fair helped teach students the joys of learning. She played an instrumental role in creating the Franklin Neighborhood Community Association, which transformed a high-crime neighborhood into a safe and supportive place to live and go to school. The impact she had on the children whose lives she touched is immeasurable.

Mary's record of service extends beyond her life as a teacher and her deep involvement in the Belleville community deserves commendation. She served as a Belleville Township Trustee and a Charter member and officer of the City of Belleville Human Relations Commission. She has been involved in the St. Clair County Historical Society, the Greater Belleville Chamber of Commerce, the Optimist Club and the Homeless Initiative Committee. She cofounded the Belleville Achieves Strength in Character (BASIC) initiative and the annual Storytelling Festival in Belleville. The many awards and honors that have been bestowed upon her over the years include the Belleville District 118 Bill Porzukowiak Character Award, the St. Louis Metropolitan Urban League Community Service Recipient of the Year, the Racial Harmony Community Service Award, the St. Clair County Lawyers Liberty Bell Award, and the 1983 Illinois Master Teacher Award.

Mr. Speaker, on this day, I am pleased to honor Mrs. Mary McHugh and the remarkable services she has given to our nation and the state of Illinois. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this wonderful woman who has repeatedly proven that "we CAN do this!"

RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF MORRIS COUNTY CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station Cooperative